



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q64948

Naoyuki KAWANISHI, et al.

Application No.: 09/893,750

Group Art Unit: 1752

Confirmation No.: 3354

Examiner: Thorl Chea

Filed: June 29, 2001

RECEIVED  
DEC 19 2002  
TC 1700

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PREPARING GRAINS OF SILVER SALT OF  
ORGANIC ACID AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THERMALLY PROCESSED  
IMAGE RECORDING MATERIAL

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of the corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office (European Search Report dated October 31, 2002 in EP 01 11 5968).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**U.S. Application No.: 09/893,750**

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Abraham J. Rosner  
Registration No. 33,276

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE



**23373**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: December 18, 2002



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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231


Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

  
Abraham J. Rosner  
Registration No. 33,276

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